

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /092 W

----- 014191

R 061255Z DEC 76

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1516

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDON DERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 428

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: SDLP CONFERENCE

REF: BELFAST 420

1. HIGHLIGHTS OF SIXTH ANNUAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE AT NEWCASTLE DECEMBER 3 THROUGH 5 INCLUDED: (A) ENDORSEMENT TO "STUDY" NEGOTIATED INDEPENDENCE, (B) NARROW DEFEAT (153-111) OF RESOLUTION CALLING FOR BRITISH DECLARATION OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW, (C) WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION THAT UDR (ULSTER DEFENSE REGIMENT) SHOULD BE DISBANDED AND, (D) APPROVAL OF PEACE MOVEMENT. PARTY EXECUTIVE DIVIDED ON INDEPENDENCE AND WITHDRAWAL WITH TEN OF THE 17 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION REPRESENTATIVES VOTING FOR DECLARATION OF INTENT AND GERRY FITT, AUSTIN CURRIE AND HUGH LOGUE AMONG THOSE WHO UNRESERVEDLY OPPOSED INDEPENDENCE IDEA. PROPOSAL TO "STUDY" INDEPENDENCE WAS DILUTION OF COOKSTOWN CHAPTER MOTION TO "ACCEPT INDEPENDENCE AS A POSSIBLE POLITICAL SOLUTION." THIS VIEW STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY IVAN COOPER AND PADDY DEVLIN.

2. PROCEEDINGS LESS TURBULENT THAN PREVIOUS YEARS AND LEADERSHIP SUCCEEDED IN MAINTAINING MODERATION OF PARTY STANCE. HOWEVER THERE CLEAR SIGNS OF RESTLESSNESS PARTIALLY ALONG GEOGRAPHIC LINES. THIS DISQUIET DOES NOT SEEM DIRECTED

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AGAINST PARTY LEADERSHIP OR EVEN PARTY POLICIES SO MUCH AS  
IT SEEMS TO BE REFLECTION OF DISCOURAGEMENT AND  
FRUSTRATION WITH PREVAILING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
SITUATIONS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS, STUDIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** 76 BELFAST 420  
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**TAGS:** PINT, ELAB, UK, EI, SDLP  
**To:** STATE  
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